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## AUCTION NO. 81 ADDITIONAL SETTLEMENT PERIOD ANNOUNCED

Period to Close January 22, 2002

On May 25, 2001, the Mass Media Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureaus) released a *Public Notice*<sup>1</sup> providing a list of all proposals received during the Auction No. 81 low power television, television translator and Class A Television limited auction filing window that were deemed to be mutually exclusive (MX) with other proposals submitted in the filing window. The Bureaus also announced a 60-day settlement period for parties with proposals in the MX groups to enter into settlement agreements or otherwise resolve their mutual exclusivities by means of engineering solutions. The settlement period was subsequently extended and closed on August 23, 2001.<sup>2</sup>

The Bureaus have received a number of requests seeking a further settlement opportunity in Auction No. 81.<sup>3</sup> The requesting parties cite to the large number of MX groups and the complexity of many of the groups as reasons why they were unable to timely submit settlements and/or engineering amendments by the August 23<sup>rd</sup> deadline. They argue that these reasons justify the opening of an additional settlement window. We agree with the requesting parties and we hereby open an additional settlement window for 60 days beginning with the release of this public notice and ending January

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "Low Power Television Auction No. 81 - Mutually Exclusive Proposals Subject to Auction," *Public Notice*, DA 01-1289, released May 25, 2001.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Auction No. 81 Settlement Period Extended to August 23, 2001," *Public Notice*, DA 01-1561, released July 2, 2001.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Among the parties requesting such relief in one form or another were: The Association of America's Public Television Stations, Larry H. Miller Communications Corporation and Azteca Broadcasting; Trinity Broadcasting Network and the Community Broadcasters Association.

22, 2002. During this time all settlements and/or engineering amendments to resolve mutual exclusivities in Auction No. 81 must be filed. We note that a number of settlements and engineering amendments were filed after the current August 23, 2001 deadline. Those filings will be treated as having been received during this additional window opportunity and will be considered.

For additional information or questions on this matter, please contact Shaun Maher of the Video Services Division, Mass Media Bureau at 202-418-1600.